

THE HOLLAND BOAT.

Submarine Wonder Is Attracting the Attention of Other Nations.

Naval Attaches of the French and British Governments Inspect the Boat and Are Amazed to Gain Control of It.

The representatives of the French and British governments have been investigating the merits of the Holland submarine boat and are much pleased with what they have seen. Lieut. Goutran de Faramond de Lefajole, naval attaché of the French embassy at Washington, and M. Louis Revier, naval engineer, representing the French government, have been in New York inspecting the boat, and it is announced that negotiations have been entered into for the construction of several vessels of the Holland type, and also for the exclusive use of the patents for the French government.

A list of the requirements of the French government was given to the representatives of the Holland company. In speaking of the boat Lieut. Faramond said: "I am pleased with what I saw in the Holland boat. It is my intention to recommend that one of the French experts in submarine navigation be sent here to study the Holland. I will also recommend that out of the appropriation now available for the construction of submarine boats some of the Holland type be purchased or built. We want a great fleet of submarine boats, and we want the best. With vessels of this type our harbors would be made impregnable."

Capt. Charles L. Otley, R. N., naval attaché of the British embassy at Washington, after a thorough study of the machinery and workings of the Holland boat, says:

"It is my intention to recommend to the board of admiralty of the British government that they immediately consider the merits of the Holland with a view of the adoption of vessels of her type into the British navy. She is, to my mind, the most formidable type of submarine boat and has demonstrated that she is the only successful one. The vessel could not only be used in keeping the harbors and the coasts free from invading fleets, but with vessels of the Holland type there would be no fear of submarine mines or other obstructions dangerous to navigation, as she could destroy them readily. It is my opinion that there is no question that the submarine boat has come to stay and that such boats must be reckoned on in future naval warfare."

BOMBARDED.

A Peaceable Virginia Town Lately the Object of Warlike Attack.

A ripple of excitement was caused at the war department recently by the announcement that the little town of Snowden, Va., on the banks of the Potomac, had been bombarded by United States soldiers. It was literally true. Eight-inch shells, fired from siege guns, shrieked throughout the town and caused everyone to seek refuge in the basements of their houses. The artillery of Fort Foote were ordered recently to do target practice with the new siege guns. A target was placed two miles below the fort, and about 200 yards from the Virginia shore.

Snowden, one-half mile below, was in the direct line of fire. The officers in charge did not reckon on the skipping propensities of shells striking water at an angle. The first thing that Snowden knew was that it was being bombarded more terrifically than any city was ever bombarded during the civil war. Word was instantly sent to the war department to stop the target practice. The department instantly issued orders, but before they could reach Fort Foote the bombardment of Snowden had been resumed, and the populace again fled for their cellars. No one was hurt in the town, though one barn was struck. The inhabitants are digging up the shells as souvenirs.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Hard Part.

It is easy enough to buy a lot of things you do not want. The difficulty comes in buying only what you actually need.—Philadelphia Times.

FISHING WITH STONES.

Devices Used by Scottish Poachers in Capturing Salmon.

It is astonishing what tiny brooks large salmon will ascend in obedience to the instinct which teaches them to seek a nursery where their young will be comparatively secure from the attacks of their numerous enemies. In one small pool of a little burn in the highlands, half a dozen yards long, I have seen eight or ten salmon, some of which must have weighed between 20 and 30 pounds. They ascend these small streams during flood time, and it frequently happens that they are caught on a falling water, and unable to escape from their confined quarters until the rivers are again in spate, it may be not for many weeks.

In such circumstances they are accessible to the devices of poachers, and although as a rule the Scottish rivers are efficiently guarded during the breeding time they are, of course, raided occasionally, and large numbers of gravid fish secured. A common method is to select a long, "holding" pool, where salmon are known to be plentiful, and where the water is moderately deep at the sides. At such a place the poachers, their faces blackened, and perhaps a dozen or so in number, time their arrival an hour or two before dawn and stone the pool vigorously until there is light enough for the next stage of the proceedings. Frightened and confused by the constant splashing of the water and the descent of large stones all around them, the salmon seek refuge by the banks, where, in the meantime, the poachers are careful to leave them undisturbed.—London Telegraph.

WEIRD STORY OF HYPNOTISM.

John J. Scanlan, of St. Louis, Drawn to San Jose, Cal., by Mysterious Occult Power.

John J. Scanlan, well dressed and apparently possessed of plenty of money, is a guest at a fashionable house at San Jose, Cal. He says his home is in St. Louis, and that he was drawn across the continent by the silent hypnotic power of W. F. James, the United States court commissioner in San Jose.

"I do not know what Mr. James wanted with me," said Scanlan. "I never saw him, nor heard his name spoken, nor saw it in print before I reached this town. Yet I know him, knew all about him, and could have described him perfectly."

"When he stood before me in his own house my master stood embodied at last. Every act of mine during four months has been directed from his brain. When he told me to come, mind speaking to mind, I felt I must obey, but I wanted formal permission and I telegraphed for it."

"Mr. James did not answer, but his mind still drew me, and I came. He alone can tell why he wanted me. He will not. Now, I must go back."

"Why," said Commissioner James, "the man is mad as a March hare. Hypnotized! Well, have you seen him? Did you look into his wonderful gray eyes? I tell you they sent a procession of cold chills down my spine that made me think somebody had got behind me with a large cake of clear ice."

"If there is any hypnotism in it, he is party of the first part and I am the victim."

IT IS TOO COSTLY.

Transportation of Mails Should Be Made Less Expensive by the Railroad Companies of the Country.

Prof. H. C. Adams, the expert retained by the congressional commission on postal affairs, which is conducting an examination into the cost of mail transportation, was a witness before the session. Taking the rate per ton per mile in 1873 as a basis of calculation, Prof. Adams showed why, in his opinion, there should be further reductions in the rates. He said there had been a vast increase in the amount of mail business, while the ratio of the decrease in rates had only been slightly greater. He thought the 15 per cent. reduction from the rate fixed in 1873 wholly inadequate to the present situation.

Prof. Adams thought that the principal reductions should be made on the long haul mails, and he presented figures showing that these rates were relatively higher than the short haul mails, in comparison with freight and express, while the expense of moving them was not so great.

Various methods of bringing about a reduction in rates were suggested by Prof. Adams. The first provided for a schedule, the maximum rate of which he established at 60 cents a mile per ton. The remaining rates were to be graded by a system, based on whatever fraction or unit of reduction might be decided upon.

Another plan set forth was the reduction of the expenses of the railroad companies in transporting mails by carrying those other than first-class as fast freight. In the latter class he proposed to include parcels and heavy printed matter.

A QUEER DISPOSITION.

Young Woman Who Has Inherited a Liking for Dark Corners in a Cellar as a Sleeping Place.

Mamie Nudler, 21 years old, of Jersey City, N. J., will not sleep in a bed if she can help it. She prefers a corner of damp cellars. According to Charles Nedler, the girl's stepfather, and her mother, Annie Nedler, the girl has made their lives miserable for the last eight years, and they have been compelled to move from place to place on account of her abnormal tendencies. Mamie, since her earliest youth, has manifested a roving disposition. In the mornings her parents find her asleep in deserted cellars, basements, lying under stoops or in the corners of arched ways. Her relatives believe that she inherits her roving disposition from her father, who was subject to spells during which he wandered about the streets at night, refusing to return home. She ran away last Saturday and was arrested later while crawling out of a cellar. Justice Potts felt that he was scarcely justified in sending her to an institution. Finally a Mrs. Shuh volunteered to help the justice out of his dilemma and give the girl a chance to work.

DIAMOND PIN IN TURKEY.

First of Annual Crop of Stories of Rich Finds in Thanksgiving Birds Comes to Hand a Little Late.

Mrs. Hyman Richmond, the wife of the proprietor of a meat market in Passaic, N. J., has come into possession of a diamond pin in an odd fashion. Last Monday Richmond came to New York and purchased several turkeys for Thanksgiving. One especially large and fat seemed to be in great agony every time it swallowed its food.

Richmond told his wife to kill the turkey and they would eat it themselves. While preparing the turkey Mrs. Richmond's hand struck against something with a sharp point on it. She cut the turkey open, and there, to her surprise, found a diamond pin. She exhibited her prize to her husband. They took the stone to a jewelry store, and there learned that the pin was valued at \$100.

Taxes on Bicycles in France. France receives \$970,000 a year from taxes on bicycles.

There is a premium on copper cents of from 1793 to 1814, inclusive, and from 1816 to 1857, inclusive, the rarest being 1793, which sometimes brings \$25, and 1854, which has sold for \$25. Others that have brought one dollar or more are 1793, 1795, 1796, 1829 and 1811.

Many Editions of German Books. Germany is a more bookish country than either Great Britain or the United States. The historical novel "Eckehard" is now in its one hundred and forty-sixth edition, and Scheffel's "Prompeter Von Sakkingen" in its two hundred and thirty-seventh.

CHURCH MADE FRENZEL PAY.

Horton (Kan.) Methodist Church Got a Judgment and Sold His Home for a Subscription.

A. T. Frenzel, of Horton, Kan., has just had the novel experience of seeing his home sold over his head to satisfy judgment on a six per cent. note for \$100 which he had given to help pay off the debt on the Methodist church.

When the note came due Frenzel, though he is a trustee of the church, refused to pay it, and John A. McCorn, treasurer of the church, sued to collect it.

Frenzel answered that he had received no money, property or benefit and therefore denied the debt.

The court gave the church judgment for \$121 and Frenzel's house was sold for \$200 to pay judgment and costs amounting to \$200. The balance of the money was turned over to Frenzel. The property was appraised at \$900.

While the suit was pending Mr. Frenzel deeded his home to a friend and that man deeded it to Mrs. Frenzel. But the deed was made after the suit began and did not protect the property.

Many of the church members were in favor of dropping the matter for fear that the church might be classed among the soulless corporations, but others argued that Frenzel was morally bound and was financially able to pay the note. They also contended that if he was made to pay the note a judgment might have a wholesome effect on many others, who solemnly promise to contribute to the support of the churches and then get out of it if possible.

The trustees bought the property and state that Mr. Frenzel can have the property if he will pay the amount of the note.

INVENTS A FLYING SHIP.

Young Russian, with the Aid of a Frenchman, Brings Out a Wonderful Machine.

M. Peodoroff, a young Russian, has invented a flying machine which he claims can be easily maneuvered in the air at any height. The apparatus has a double set of tubes—the horizontal for the propulsion of the machine and the vertical to make it rise or fall.

The motive power is provided by concentrated gases, generated from liquids which are stored in special reservoirs. These liquids pass through special tubes into a furnace, where their combustion produces sufficient gas to drive the machine easily. There is no danger of fire, as the apparatus is constructed entirely of metal, while the car for the aeronaut is separated from the lamp by several layers of incombustible material.

The car of M. Peodoroff's model is made to hold one person. The maximum speed of the machine is from 140 to 160 kilometers (or 108 miles) an hour.

M. Peodoroff was aided in his invention by M. Dupont, a Frenchman, who discovered the substance from which the gas is obtained. These young men will arrive at St. Petersburg shortly and will give a public demonstration of the capabilities of the machine.

M. Dupont will ascend in it to a height of about 426 meters, and will perform all sorts of complicated evolutions in order to prove his complete control over the movements of the machine. M. Dupont intends to perform the evolutions in time to music.

TO SURVEY HARBORS.

The Pathfinder Will Conduct Important Work in Charting Channels and Harbors of Hawaii.

The coast and geodetic survey steamer Pathfinder has just left San Francisco for Hawaii, where the work of accurately surveying and charting the channels and harbors will be prosecuted for the next month or more. Capt. F. W. Perkins, in command of the expedition, accompanied by a number of assistants from the hydrographic and other scientific divisions of the department, will begin their work in the harbor of Hilo.

"After the work at Hilo is completed," said Prof. Tillman, assistant superintendent of the coast survey, "La Haina harbor will be surveyed. Years ago it was one of the best known harbors of the group, and reports show 100 whaling vessels assembled at a time in the harbor. De Freycinet selected it for his observations, showing that it was in the old days a considerable commercial and social center."

TO HELP FARMING INDUSTRY.

Move Made by Prominent Citizens of New York to Aid the Farmers of the State.

A movement in the interest of the farmers of New York state and the farming industry is being developed by several wealthy men and women, whose interest was aroused in the subject during the general depression of five years ago, when many farmers were forced to give up their farms. They came to New York city in the hope of being able to support their families, but few met with even moderate success.

The leaders in the movement are ex-Mayor Abram S. Hewitt, Mrs. Seth Low, ex-Secretary of the Treasury John G. Carlisle, R. Fulton Cutting, William E. Dodge, Mrs. Josephine Shaw Lowell, Jacob H. Schiff, Walter L. Snodden and a number of others.

The committee has engaged the services of John T. Powell, an expert on the subject, to make an exhaustive investigation of the agricultural condition of the state.

Mr. Powell made a detailed study of the farming affairs in each county. Summarized, the report shows that where the conditions of the farmers was almost deplorable five years ago, by reason of the hard times, it is now the reverse.

Mr. Powell's report showed that the farmers who had a scientific and broad knowledge of agriculture had much greater financial success than those who merely worked their land on old-fashioned methods.

It favored the establishment of a school near New York city for the scientific teaching of horticultural and other branches of agriculture.

The committee will further examine as to the need of such a school, and it will be established if it is found that it will benefit the farmers of the state.

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JOHN BURNS, Mgr



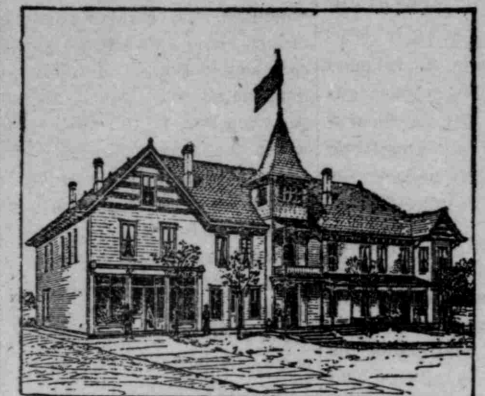
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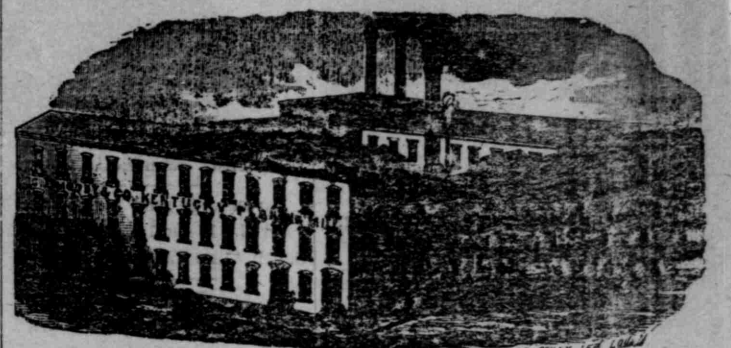
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